

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Yaver *et al.*

Confirmation No: To be assigned

Serial No.: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: September 5, 2003

Examiner: To be assigned

For: METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING ANTIMICROBIAL COMPOUNDS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 2-10, 12-26, 28-33, 35, 37-41, 45, 47-49, 57-68, 71-74, and 76-78 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 11, 27, 34, 36, 42-44, 46, 50-56, 69-70, 75, and 79 are pending. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application.

1. (Original) A method for determining the mode of action of an antimicrobial compound, comprising:

(a) detecting hybridization complexes formed by contacting at least one nucleic acid sample, obtained by culturing cells of a bacterium in the presence of at least one sub-inhibitory amount of an antimicrobial compound having an unknown mode of action, with a plurality of nucleic acid sequences corresponding to genes of the bacterial cells, wherein the presence, absence or change in the amount of the hybridization complexes detected, compared with hybridization complexes formed between the plurality of nucleic acid sequences and a second nucleic acid sample obtained from the bacterial cells cultured in the absence or presence of a standard compound having a known mode of action, is indicative of the similarity or dissimilarity of the mode of actions of the antimicrobial compound and the standard compound; and